

March 16, 1990

LB 1141

LR 239

But, at any rate, if LR 239 passes and if 1141 is implemented, then we...I do feel that these two entities, these two institutions need to be one. To begin with, the University of Nebraska Hospital already has a separate Board of Governors and they are delegated with a substantial responsibility for planning, oversight and decision-making relative to the operation of the hospital and, of course, the hospital is the college. So, from that point of view, other states do it the same way, from that point of view, they have an institutional board right now, so I see no point in having another institutional board. I think it should be all combined in one. In general, this morning when we talked about the beginning of the committee amendments I was a little concerned, again, I think I will say all these things right now because Senator Withem mentioned the words "revenue neutral" as to the expense in getting all of these institutional boards organized and the continuing of their functions. Well, I have heard those two words before and...I just don't think there is anything that is neutral. Everything costs money and I guess I trust Senator Warner pretty well when he says it's only going to cost \$135,000, well, I think it will proliferate into a lot more money. I know that there are staffs in place but even...but the organizational part of it will take time and money to be sure that this will work the way we think it's going to. So to go back to my amendment, the second part again is the budget that it should go...the money should go back to the Regents for them to parcel out to the different institutions. There again, I still have a real problem with all those institutional boards and so I think at least if the money is in central hands, we have some kind of control from the educational point of view rather than have seven boards lobbying for its own funds for each institution. So, from that...with that introduction, we had a long discussion on it the other day and I just feel that it's very important that these two be a combined board if indeed we end up with this mechanism and I'm hoping that you will support it this morning because I think it will make this bill, if it does pass, and at least this will make it better. I am pleased with the fact that the committee amendments included the emphasis on the fact that the University of Nebraska here in Lincoln is the research arm and the premier institution in that regard because, again, you cannot spread that all across the state in each place, we simply don't have the money nor the people to do the in-depth research and the continuing research that brings money into the state and attracts the scholars and the professors to come to the state and to the institution to do